

Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



One of several recycling stations
set up by students and staff at
Walter Johnson High School

MONTHLY REPORT
JULY 2001



Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper

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OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2001 began July 1, 2000.)

FACILITY	July FY 02	FY 02 Total	July FY 01	July FY 00
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	6,185 tons	6,185 tons	5,589 tons	4,557 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽⁴⁾	20,845 tons	20,845 tons	12,647 tons	15,005 tons
American Ash Recycling ⁽²⁾	N/A	N/A	2,730 tons	3,108 tons
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽³⁾	54,032 tons	54,032 tons	49,652 tons	47,989 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	3,745 tons	3,745 tons	3,503 tons	2390 tons

⁽¹⁾MRF tons reported are outgoing.

⁽²⁾Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

⁽³⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here. For FY01 these tonnages are preliminary, with adjustments made in the December and June monthly reports.

⁽⁴⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled at Clean Rock or other locations.

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation — During July, program staff:

- Prepared and presented T&E briefing materials.
- Updated DSWS Performance Measures and forwarded to OMB for publishing.
- Reviewed new OMB budget preparation procedures and planned for integration into DSWS processes this fall.
- Trained phone and program staff for handling solid waste billing questions.
- Program staff handled far fewer solid waste billing inquiries than expected for the season (possibly attributable to phone operators and web page).
- Briefed SWAC on Variable Rate Study.
- Continued to conduct research on multi-family condominium subdivisions, preparing field inspection forms and maps to aid in re-evaluating service strategies (will take several more weeks to complete).
- Continued development of new hauler billing system.
- Continued work of Variable Rate Study: costing out implementation options.
- Began receiving 6-month reports from licensed haulers (due August 1st), inputting information into Access [™] database.

- Planned and trained staff in processing non-residential billing appeals.
- Began receiving and processing FY02 non-residential appeals.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – The next scheduled FIG meeting is 7:30 p.m., September 12, 2001 at the Gothic Barn. SHA will discuss traffic monitoring at the facilities.

Sugarloaf Citizens Association – SCA and the County will meet on September 25, 2001 at 7:30p.m. at the Gothic Barn. The County is working with SCA & FIG to quantify the remaining obligations under the Master Plan and the SCA Agreement.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – SWAC met Monday, July 16, at the Executive Office Building, 6th Floor Conference Room. Nine SWAC members, three County staff and one guest were in attendance. DSWS staff gave a presentation to the Committee on the Variable Rate Study. The new Committee Chair and new Committee Vice Chair began their terms of office.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month of July. Wednesday, July 4, 2001 was a holiday, making the last 3 collection days of the week a day late. As we approach the holiday, the holiday slide information is now posted in red on the web page cover. This seems to reduce the confusion that we have experienced in the past. Additionally, we now have a listing of 227 residents to be e-mailed with information concerning schedule changes as a result of holidays or bad weather.

Recycling – Mixed paper tonnage for the residential program during the four-week period of June 11, 2001 through July 6, 2001 was 9.22 lbs. per household.

Contractor Performance – Sixteen complaints were not promptly resolved by the contractors in July; all were corrected by the County. During July, DSWS received 795 complaints; this represents a 3.52% decrease from July 2000, which had 824 complaints.

Enforcement Actions – Thirty-five citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Eleven citations	Collecting solid waste before 7 a.m.	\$6,500
Ten citations	Not having a valid collector's tag attached to the Vehicle	\$2,500
Eight citations	Not having a suitable tight fitting cover	\$4,250
Five citations	Not having a valid collectors license	\$5,750
One citation	Dumping solid waste on property of another	\$500

Six NOV's issued for violation's of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Three NOV's	Dumping or leaving solid waste on public or private property
Two NOV's	Failing to maintain an approved container
One NOV	Not having a tight fitting cover

Customer Service – DSWS received 9,502 incoming calls and 331 follow up calls were made for quality check. There were 1,240 blue bins delivered and 270 e-mail requests handled by the Customer Service Staff.

Volunteer Activities – During July, 14 volunteers contributed 63 hours of time to recycling activities including:

- One Household Hazardous Waste collection at the Transfer Station;
- Several outreach events, including neighborhoods in Silver Spring and Germantown;
- A Fair in Silver Spring; and
- The Agriculture Farm Tour.

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Latex Paint Management – The County ordered new brochures promoting home-management of latex paint.

Bicycle Recycling – Pedals for Progress picked up 78 bicycles. These bikes will be repaired and find new homes in El Salvador and West Africa.

Computer Recycling – Approximately 37.3 tons of computers were recycled in July under the computer recycling program.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities – Gazette and Journal advertising continued throughout the month, in addition to the Gazette's "Green Man" column, which also appears in digest form at greenman.askDEP.com.

Final arrangements were made with Toro and Toro lawnmower retailers in the metropolitan area to sponsor the "Clean, Green, Eco Minutes" which will air on Classic Rock 94.7 (WARW FM), addressing grasscycling, environmental lawn care, composting, Integrated Pest Management, and other source reduction issues. All production and advertising costs for these ongoing weekly Eco Minutes will be absorbed by the radio station and a consortium of sponsors. Eco Minutes will eventually run year-round, with a new Eco Minute airing each week.

Scheduling has begun for a series of fall home composting and vermicomposting workshops.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – One HHW event was held on July 8, 2001 at the Transfer Station. There were 524 patrons at the event.

Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program – One Ecowise event was held on July 11, 2001; twelve companies attended.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEM Tracking of RRF Operations -

Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) indicated that all three units operated continuously until July 25. At approximately 6 a.m. on July 25, unit #2 was brought offline because of pluggage in the discharger. Repairs were completed within two hours and the unit was brought back on line at 8 a.m. On July 26, probe maintenance was done on unit #3 economizer between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Therefore, CEM economizer data was missing during this time period. Thereafter, all three units operated continuously till the end of July. No equipment malfunctions affected unit operations or stack emissions.

In the first week of July, the set of ten CEMS CD-ROM's were updated to include CEMS data up to June 30, 2001. Copies of the CD-ROM's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to DSWS staff, SWAC and FIG.

The County received a preliminary draft of the RRF Title V Air Permit from MDE. NEA, Covanta and DSWS will review this document.

Attempts to put the CEMS data on the County's web site are progressing. Because of compatibility problems between Covanta's computer software and the County's computer software, the PC was sent to Covanta's main office in New Jersey. The problem appeared to have been solved. Currently, County staff and Covanta are coordinating the effort to test the system with real-time data. It may take up to two weeks to make it operational.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology -

The Leachate Thermal Treatment System (LTTTS) operated for 24 days, evaporating on average, 8 gallons of leachate per minute. Bentech is still continuing negotiations with electric companies for implementing an electricity-generating project. A meeting was held with Bentech on July 11 to discuss the status of the project. During the July 11 meeting, the issue of Green House Gas (GHG) credits was discussed. DSWS stated that NEA is currently developing an Agreement with SCS Engineers for giving SCS exclusive right to market GHG credits from several Maryland landfills. The County is planning to include Oaks landfill in this Agreement. BENTECH stated that the firm is also exploring marketing GHG credits from Oaks. Further discussions will be carried out with BENTECH to ensure that there won't be a conflict between the proposed NEA-SCS Agreement and the County's contract with BENTECH.

Yard Trim Composting Facility: Consent Agreement - Because exceedances of BOD₅ Discharge Permit limit occurred in Ponds 1 and 2 after June 1, 2000, the County or MES are liable for a fine of \$500. DSWS is currently discussing this issue.

FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee – The fourth meeting of the Air Quality Committee was held on July 12, 2001, all five members of the Committee were present at the meeting. Members discussed their comments on the two documents that were mailed to them two weeks earlier, the "Non-air Media Sampling Program", and the "Update of the RRF Health Risk Study." On the Non-air Media Sampling Program, members asked for information on detection limits and sensitivity analysis. On the Update of the RRF Health Risk Study, members emphasized that health risks from consumption of fish from farm pond must be addressed. Subsequent to this discussion, the projected schedule for future products was discussed. The Committee members were informed that contacts were made with the owners of potential sampling sites for the Non-air Media Sampling Program that will start in August/September 2001.

Other issues discussed were the radiation device detected at the RRF ash grizzly. RSO, Covanta's contractor, will dispose off the device at a permitted radioactive waste facility.

Contractual Work – The Office of Procurement signed the new contract with SCS Engineers of Reston, Virginia on July 25, 2001. Among other work related to landfill gas emissions from County's landfills, SCS will be preparing "Emissions Certification Reports" for the Oaks landfill.

ENSR contract that is to expire in September will be renewed for another year. ENSR is currently conducting RRF Multimedia Studies.

RECYCLING

Public Outreach – Outreach events in the low mixed paper participation areas were completed in June with more events scheduled for August. Staff takes the Recycle Mobile out to locations where there is a lot of activity such as shopping centers. A display of all the types of paper and cardboard that can be recycled at the curb is set up. Information on mixed paper recycling is handed out. In addition, orders for new or additional blue bins are taken, and all other questions and requests are fulfilled. Work to develop, translate and print information on recycling, waste reduction and buying recycled products in English, Spanish and Chinese to further increase awareness in households where English is not the primary language has begun and will continue through early Fall.

MCPS recycling rate: 10.2%

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction – Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs for businesses. Staff is making plans to work with local shopping malls to increase recycling awareness to mall tenants and customers.

The next addition of the SORRT Newsletter, which honors recipients of the Montgomery County 2001 Recycling Awards is being prepared for print and should be mailed by late August. Staff began to monitor incoming loads of trash at the Transfer Station for large quantities of recyclable materials being thrown away. Information is being gathered to educate the haulers and the generators of the materials. Work has begun on a business recycling video that features recycling, waste reduction, reuse and buying recycled.

Multi-Family Recycling – Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs, and work with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support. Staff continued to assist properties that were not in compliance with the County's regulation. Delinquent properties are being visited in order to obtain their annual recycling reports for 2000. Staff is planning future program initiatives using the recently completed survey results. The next issue of the TRRAC Newsletter is expected to be mailed in late August. The advertising campaign highlighting the multi-family recycling requirements and the services the TRRAC Program provides has begun and will continue through August.

Mixed Paper Recycling – Staff continues monitoring the amounts of mixed paper being recycled in each area to troubleshoot and provide additional education to those low performance areas. Several initiatives are underway to serve under-performing areas, including developing and distributing additional educational materials in English as well as other languages, having community events where staff can provide additional recycling outreach and educational materials.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot – The toters have been ordered for the Potomac area and the target date for distribution is set for the week of September 10, 2001.

Tubgrinding Pilot – Tubgrinding of screened reject material will begin in August 2001.

Ash Recycling Pilot – The ash-recycling pilot program ended in June. NEA issued an RFP for a long-term ash-recycling program and a pre-proposal meeting was held on July 25. Proposals are due September 12, 2001.

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility – The Facility operation consisted of three units for the entire month. Two brief periods of equipment maintenance were required to unplug an ash discharger and repair an economizer probe (see RRF, page 6). The units operated at varying loads in the first two weeks of the month and at full load for the last two weeks of the month. Some curtailment of operation occurred in the first two weeks

because a sufficient number of ash containers were not always available. All parties are working to improve the timely delivery of empty ash containers to the RRF.

There were no minimum or maximum utility generation alerts.

There were no reportable air or water quality environmental excursions in the month.

The following environmental events occurred:

- June Water Supply Report submitted to MDE.
- MDE issued their inspection report of the potable water system inspection made in June. Covanta is developing an emergency response plan, a bacteriological sampling plan and a cross connection control plan. Operator licenses have expired and must be renewed.
- MDE issued their report of the NPDES inspection conducted in May. Minor on-site and contract laboratory issues were noted and have been resolved.
- MDE delivered a draft Title V permit; all parties are reviewing it.
- Submitted second quarter Operations and Emissions Report to MDE.
- Submitted second quarter NPDES Report to MDE.
- Submitted semi-annual 40 CFR Subpart C (b) Report (CEM gas calibrations) to MDE and USEPA.
- Received laboratory report for NPDES sampling conducted on July 11. Results indicated elevated TDS for Outfall #001. Although not above permit limits, Covanta is investigating to determine the source of the elevated levels.
- County CD-ROM's emission data were updated.

Approximately 15 middle-school students from the Montgomery College Summer Camp toured the Facility.

Contract negotiations with Mirant and PEPCO were concluded. The new Electricity Sales Agreement, the PJM Interconnection Agreement and the PEPCO Interconnection Agreement were signed. Documents were filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Approvals are expected in September.

SCS Engineers/Dvirka and Bartilucci began interviewing personnel and reviewing data in performing the Operations Review and Assessment of the Facility.

Materials Recovery Facility – Approximately 1,639 tons of commingled material were shipped out after processing, and approximately 4,545 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the OPS processing facility.

The contractor continued with the construction of the building expansion. The erection of structural steel was completed, and the contractor installed roofing and associated insulation.

Agreement in principle was reached with the contractor who will install new processing equipment, and a contract should be executed in August.

Oaks Landfill – Cherry Hill Construction, the contractor for the Phase I closure construction, completed all outstanding construction punch list items. Several administrative/documentation punch list items remain.

DEP and the Office of the County Attorney are preparing additions to the Post-Closure Care Plan for the 30-Year post-closure period at the Oaks Landfill in response to comments received from MDE on the draft plan submitted by DSWS.

DEP continued weekly monitoring of certain gas wells where methane had been detected. Methane concentrations, which had diminished towards negligible levels, increased again as a result of a brief outage of the gas blower system.

Gude Landfill – URS is designing repairs to correct several poorly drained areas at the landfill.

Beantown Dump – DSWS' contractor is finalizing the design of the passive gas venting system at the old Beantown dumpsite. County staff visited several of the properties that will be affected by this work.

Transfer Station – During July, Covanta shipped via rail 48,498 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the RRF, 2,340 more tons than shipped in July 2000.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

Water and sewer connections were made to the MES trailer.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – The clean up work at the Chiswell farmhouse is underway and additional services are being scoped, priced and procured. The initial clean up of the house is complete and the scope and price for stone repair, establishing the well and testing the septic system is approved. A more thorough assessment of the structural condition continues to be developed. Repair and installation of a new roof is being scoped and priced.

A draft lease for the Draper property was provided to DFS for their review and preparation of a final draft.

Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan – Staff is working with FIG and SCA to quantify the remaining obligations in the Plan and other documents.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – The Dickerson yard trim facility received 3,745 tons of grass for composting; 3,242 yards of Leafgro were sold in bulk.

Bagging Operation – In July, 2,100 bags of Leafgro were produced at the facility and 12,800 bags were shipped to distributors.

Linden Farm Renovations - Under the signed bagging agreement, the County is to renovate the Feed Barn and Bank Barn. Dean Fitzgerald, the contractor, started the renovation work in June; renovation work is ongoing.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia - During the month of July, about 15,658 tons of ash residue and 5,187 tons of non-processible waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. This was the largest single month of material hauling since the beginning of the contract. About 1,295 tons of rubble were recycled at Clean Rock. The RRF was running all three units for most of the month, resulting in high volumes of ash residue to transport. Maintenance on the ash container fleet including replacement of corroded side panels has been ongoing at the Collier Rail Yard near Petersburg, Virginia for over six months. Most of the containers in the 300-container fleet have been inspected and repaired. Two prototype, corrosion-resistant containers one made out of stainless steel and one made out of fiberglass are being tested.

Ash Recycling – The AAR pilot ash recycling program ended on June 30, 2001. The County via the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority issued a solicitation for a long-term ash recycling contract. A pre-bid meeting was held on July 25; proposals are due in September.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370
Materials Recovery Facility	301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6439 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	www.MCRecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

<i>TOPIC OR FACILITY</i>	
Current Recycling Rate in Montgomery County	36.5%
Recycling Goal	50%
New Recycling Programs Scheduled for FY 01	Residential Mixed Paper Collection is now available countywide
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY00 tons received- 58,602
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,540
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	199,258
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NEA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility